Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Message Text

PAGE 01 NATO 01969 01 OF 02 051834Z
ACTION EUR-08

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EURE-00 PM-03 DODE-00 INR-05
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ACDA-10 OIC-01 PRS-01 /051 W
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O R 051730Z APR 77
FM USMISSION NATO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2678
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 USNATO 1969

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: NATO PFOR NAC
SUBJ: NATO SUMMIT ARRANGEMENTS

REF: USNATO 1905 (REPEATED TO LONDON)

SUMMARY: THERE FOLLOWS, WITH A REQUEST FOR GUIDANCE AS AVAILABLE, A REPORT ON NATO PERMREPS DISCUSSION, APRIL 4, OF ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE MAY 10-11 SUMMIT MEETING, INCLUDING ATTENDANCE, SEATING LIMITATIONS, AGENDA, AND PRESS ADMISSION. EARLY GUIDANCE WOULD ASSIST US IN INFLUENCING ALLIED PLANS. END SUMMARY.

1. AT AN APRIL 4 PRIVATE NAC MEETING, PERMREPS HELD THEIR FIRST DISCUSSION OF ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE NATO SUMMIT, COVERING THE FOLLOWING POINTS:

2. ATTENDANCE:DE FREITAS CRUZ (PORTUGAL) SAID HE EXPECTED PRIME MINISTER SOAREZ WOULD ATTEND. CATALANO (ITALY) SUBSEQUENTLY INFORMED PERMREPS THAT PRIME MINISTER ANDREOTTI WOULD ATTEND. SCHUURMANS (BELGIUM) SAID HIS PRIME MINISTER WOULD DEFINITELY LEAVE AFTER CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 NATO 01969 01 OF 02 051834Z

THE FIRST DAY, MAY 10. LUNS EXPRESSED VIEW THAT HEADS OF STATE OR GOVERNMENT WERE UNLIKELY TO REMAIN AFTER PRESIDENT CARTER DEPARTED. NEVERTHELESS, HE SUGGESTED THAT HEADS OF STATE OR GOVERNMENT COULD CERTAINLY ATTEND THE SECOND DAY OF THE MEETING IF THEY DESIRE TO DO SO.

3. KILLCK (UK) SAID HIS AUTHORITIES WOULD APPRECIATE HAVING AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE A LIST OF MEMBERS OF DELEGATIONS TO THE SUMMIT, INCLUDING AN INDICATION OF WIVES

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

WHO WOULD PLAN TO ACCOMPANY DELEGATION MEMBERS.

4. TIME PRESSURES: NOTING THAT HIS AUTHORITIES WISH TO REGARD THE MAY 10-11 NAC SESSION AS ONE MEETING, KILLICK SAID IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO HAVE TIME FOR ALL HEADS OF ALLIED LEADERS TO SPEAK ON MAY 10. RECALLING THAT ALLIED REPRESENTATIVES AT MINISTERIAL MEETINGS SOMETIMES SPOKE UP TO 25 MINUTES, LUNS ESTIMATED THAT IF 15 ALLIED LEADERS SPEAK FOR 15 MINUTES EACH ON MAY 10 THEIR STATEMENTS WOULD TAKE UP AT LEAST THREE HOURS AND FORTY FIVE MINUTES, AND THAT 15 MINUTES OR SO WOULD BE REQUIRED FOR OPENING REMARKS. NOTING THAT HE COULD NOT INTERRUPT HEADS OF STATE OR GOVERNMENT, LUNS SUGGESTED THAT PERMREPS DRAW THE ATTENTION OF THEIR AUTHORITIES TO THE TIME PRESSURES AND RECOMMEND THAT THEY ATTEMPT TO LIMIT THEIR STATEMENTS TO 15 MINUTES EACH.

5. DE FREITAS CRUZ SUGGESTED THAT THE PORTUGUESE HONORARY PRESIDENT MAKE HIS OPENING REMARKS, WHICH WOULD BE BRIEF, AT THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL IN LANCASTER HOUSE RATHER THAN AT THE OPENING CEREMONY AT THE WHITEHALL BANQUETING HOUSE AS THE UK OUTLINE (REFTEL) HAD SUGGESTED. LUNS TENTATIVELY AGREED, NOTING THAT HE AND THE BRITISH PRIME MINISTER WOULD IN THIS EVENT BE THE ONLY SPEAKERS AT THE OPENING CEREMONY.
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PAGE 03 NATO 01969 01 OF 02 051834Z

6. COMMENT: WE UNDERSTAND THAT IN LIGHT OF THE ABOVE DISCUSSION THE UK IS CONSIDERING SUGGESTING THAT THE MAY 10 MORNING COUNCIL MEETING CONTINUE UNTIL 1:00 PM, WHEN THE FAMILY PORTRAIT WOULD BE TAKEN. LUNCHEON WOULD BE AT 1:30 PM, AND THE AFTERNOON MEETING, BEGINNING AT 3:00 PM, WOULD TENTATIVELY CONCLUDE AT 5:00 PM. THE INTERNATIONAL STAFF PLANS TO ISSUE A DETAILED DRAFT SCHEDULE AROUND MAY 18. END COMMENT.

7. SEATING LIMITATIONS: CITING THE UK DRAFT OUTLINE, KILLICK SAID IT WOULD BE PHYSICALLY IMPOSSIBLE AT LANCASTER HOUSE TO HAVE MORE THAN THREE SEATS PER DELEGATION AT THE TABLE,WITH THREE SEATS BEHIND FOR EACH DELEGATION AND ANOTHER TWO OR THREE SEATS IN A BLOCK AT ONE END OF THE GALLERY.

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PAGE 01 NATO 01969 02 OF 02 051837Z
ACTION EUR-08

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EURE-00 PM-03 DODE-00 INR-05
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Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 USNATO 1969

LIMDIS

8. PRESS ADMISSION: KILLICK SAID THERE WOULD BE LIMITATIONS ON PRESS REPRESENTATIVES AT LANCASTER HOUSE AND THAT ONLY PRESS AND OFFICIAL PHOTOGRAPHERS ACCREDITED TO NATO WOULD BE ADMITTED AT THE APPROPRIATE TIMES AND AREAS THERE. THE FULL PRESS AND PHOTOGRAPHERS WOULD, HOWEVER, BE ACCOMMODATED AT THE OPENING CEREMONY AT THE WHITEHALL BANQUETING HOUSE.

9. AGENDA: LUNS CIRCULATED THE DRAFT AGENDA PROVIDED BELOW, NOTING THAT THE THREE ITEMS SUGGESTED FOR THE FIRST DAY WERE NOMINAL SINCE HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT WOULD MAKE WHATEVER POINTS THEY WISHED IN THEIR STATEMENTS. MANY OF THE ITEMS SUGGESTED FOR THE SECOND DAY COULD BE DEALT WITH RAPIDLY, LUNS BELIEVED, AN THE PRINCIPAL TOPIC OF DISCUSSION WOULD LIKELY BE THE CONSIDERATION OF THE IS REPORT ON PREPARATIONS FOR BELGRADE. SOME PERMREPS NOTED POSSIBLE INTEREST AS WELL IN DISCUSSIONS OR QUESTIONS ON SALT, MBFR AND OTHER DISARMAMENT ISSUES.

10. BEGIN TEXT:

FOR THE FIRST DAY: THE AGENDA MIGHT BE SIMILAR TO THAT FOR THE CONFIDENTIAL

MINISTERIAL COUNCIL IN MAY 1975:

I. REVIEW OF THE INTERNATIONAL SITUATION
II. STATE OF THE ALLIANCE
III. ANY OTHER BUSINESS.

FOR THE SECOND DAY: WE COULD LIST MORE DETAILED ITEMS:

I. CSCE: PREPARATIONS FOR BELGRADE
II. DISARMAMENT: SALT, MBFR AND OTHER DISARMAMENT QUESTIONS
III. OTHER EAST/WEST ISSUES (THE REPORT OF THE SITUATION IN THE MEDITERRANEAN WOULD BE TAKEN UNDER THIS ITEM)
IV. STANDARDISATION OF ARMAMENTS: INTEROPERABILITY OF EQUIPMENT
V. CIVIL EMERGENCY PLANNING
VI. DATE AND PLACE OF NEXT MINISTERIAL SESSION

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

VII. ANY OTHER BUSINESS
VIII. COMMUNIQUE. END TEXT.

11. ACTION REQUESTED: GUIDANCE, AS AVAILABLE, ON THE POINTS DISCUSSED ABOVE.STRAUSZ-HUPE

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Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

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EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
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